MUSI 502: Conducting

Monday 11- 12:30, Hirsch Orchestra Rehearsal Hall

Jerry Hou Email: jerry.hou@rice.edu Office: APB Hall 1126 Office Phone: 713-348-2429 Cell Phone: 832-417-1118 Office Hours: By Appointment

Course Description: This course provides students with an introduction to various aspects of conducting. Topics that will be explored include philosophy of conducting, conducting technique, methods of score study, and rehearsal technique.

General Objectives: To gain an understanding of various aspects of conducting including function, purpose, technique, score study, and rehearsal procedures

Specific Objectives:

1. Explore the function and purpose of a conductor in an ensemble setting
2. Develop coordination of the physical components of the body involved in conducting, leading to fluency in various beat patterns and meters, dynamics and tempi, cueing, and use of the left hand
3. Learn how to show various musical and expressive aspects in music
4. Explore various methods of score study, learning a piece, and making interpretive decisions
5. Creating procedures and strategies for rehearsing an ensemble
6. Using the experience of studying conducting to impact and improve your performance on your own instrument.

Texts: No required text. Materials will be handed out in class.

Grading Policy: Grading will be based on attendance, participation, effort, conducting proficiency, and improvement.

Grades will be distributed as follows: attendance/participation 75%, homework/ quizzes 25%

Attendance: As the class meets only once per week and is a highly interactive environment, attendance and participation is crucial. If you need to miss a class due to auditions, competitions, or professional development, please email me at least a week in advance to request an excused absence. If you are sick or ill, please try to email me before class so I know you will not be there and can plan accordingly. Otherwise, your absence will affect your final grade.